

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Public Health and Sanitary Condition

OF THE

RICCALL RURAL DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR

1905.

BY

BERNARD STEDMAN,

M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Camb.),

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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SELBY :

W. B. BELLERBY & SON, PRINTERS, BOOKSELLERS, &c.

1906.



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R I C C A L L

**Rural District Council.**

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ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Public Health and Sanitary Condition

FOR THE YEAR

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report upon the state of the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions of your district for 1905.

**POPULATION.**

I estimate the population of the district at 3,200, and I believe it is gradually increasing. Many of the empty houses in Barlby have recently been occupied. The portion of the parish which adjoins Selby shews signs of development in the near future. Its close proximity to railway and river makes it a favourable site for industrial processes.

**BIRTHS.**

111 births have been registered, the birth-rate being 34·6 per thousand. This is the highest rate recorded for the last ten years, and is 6 above the average. The rate for England and Wales was 27·2, and for the Rural Districts was only 26·3 per thousand.

## DEATHS.

Only 40 deaths have been recorded, giving the exceptionally low death-rate of 12·5. It will be seen from Table I. that this is, with one exception, the lowest record for the last ten years. The average death-rate is 16. For the rural portions of England and Wales the death-rate in 1905 was 14·9.

Six of the deaths occurred in children under one year of age, and sixteen in persons over sixty-five. No deaths were caused by diarrhoea either this year or the previous one. One death only was certified as phthisis.

From epidemic diseases four deaths occurred, viz., 1 from scarlet fever, 2 from whooping cough, and 1 from diphtheria. The zymotic death-rate was thus 1·2 per thousand. From these facts it will be seen that the health of the district has been remarkably good throughout the year.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Twenty-nine cases have been reported, viz., 19 scarlet fever, 5 diphtheria, 1 typhoid fever, and 4 erysipelas. One case of scarlet fever and one of diphtheria proved fatal. 8 scarlet fever cases were probably contracted in Selby, where the disease was prevalent most of the year; 5 patients being children attending schools in the town. Nine cases occurred at Riccall in October and November, 4 being in one house. A case at North Duffield was imported from an adjoining district. They were mostly of a mild type, but the isolation in several cases was practically nil.

3 of the diphtheria cases reported were from one house in Riccall. There was another case in the village when these commenced. There has been no epidemic of measles or whooping cough, and it has not been necessary to close the Schools on account of illness in any of the villages.

The Selby Joint Isolation Hospital is now open, and I believe arrangements can be made to take patients from this district. This will be a great help in many cases, and would probably prove far more economical than building a hospital or joining with another authority in the erection and maintainance of such an institution.

## SANITATION.

With the exception of that part of Barlby Parish adjoining Selby, the water supply of the district is unsatisfactory. In this place several bored wells have been made into the red sandstone to



a depth of about 120 feet, and yield water of good quality. Although bored wells exist in other parts of the district, the water is inferior, and almost invariably contains iron, sometimes in such quantity as to render it practically useless for drinking purposes. Unfortunately a prejudice exists against drinking rain water collected from the roofs, though it is frequently the best obtainable, and far preferable to that from shallow wells, the water in which, is as a rule, polluted with surface drainage.

The disposal of sewage at the works on Barlby Road, which until November had been satisfactory, was seriously interfered with owing to an accident at the Flour Mill, which resulted in large quantities of wheat and sand getting into the sewer. Serious nuisance was occasioned by the smell from the manholes, and considerable difficulty was experienced in cleansing the sewer. The detritus tank at the disposal works was almost filled with this material, and a good deal still remains in the septic tank. Owing to the large amount of liquid coming from the Mill, and the probability of other factories being erected in this locality, it will be necessary to provide for pumping the sewage effluent into the river in time of flood. Some form of wind engine would probably suffice, as its use is almost confined to the winter time.

A portion of the old sewer in Riccall has been relaid, as it was found to be defective, and 40 yards of new sewer constructed.

### **DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.**

In my report last year I stated that the cowsheds and dairies in this district compared favourably with those in many rural districts, still it may not be out of place to mention some of the more important points with regard to the construction of sheds generally.

The construction of the floor, lighting and ventilation, I regard as the most important items. The best floors are those made of concrete, but bricks set on edge in cement answer the purpose, and are usually seen in this district. The manure trench should be broader and deeper than is generally made. It should be fifteen inches broad, and four to six inches deep at the top of the shed, gradually increasing to the outlet. The stalls are usually too long, consequently the manure falls short of the trench. Five feet is ample if the feeding trough is not too high for the cows to lie with their heads over it.

The eight hundred cubic feet of air space required by the model regulations of the Local Government Board is seldom seen, and I

think might be curtailed to six hundred if the ventilation is good. The ventilation can be quite inexpensively provided by a row of openings above the height of the cows' heads. Drain pipes sloping upwards are commonly used and act as air inlets. It is well to have some on both sides of the shed. It is also necessary to have outlets for the foul air at the highest part of the shed. Raising some of the ridge tiles or several of the special earthenware ventilators answer this purpose. The inlets are generally to be found, but the outlets rarely. Light should be obtained by windows in the sides and roof. For existing sheds, glass tiles in the roof are the best and least expensive means of increasing the amount of light. The shed should be so lighted that every part of the floor is plainly visible.

The walls should be cemented or tarred for the lower 5 feet. They are then easily kept clean by washing. The woodwork of the stalls should also be tarred.

Attention must also be given to the animals themselves. It is not too much to expect that the teats of the cows and hands of the milkers should be washed before milking. If a wholesome milk is to be obtained it must be free from dirt.

A difficulty with which we have to contend in this district is the water supply. Few of the farms are satisfactory in this respect, and more use ought to be made of rain water for drinking purposes.

An important part of the process of dairying is the rapid cooling of milk immediately after milking. It is seldom done in this district, as dairy farmers do not realize that it greatly improves the keeping properties of the milk.

The cleansing of milk cans and vessels is generally well attended to as this share of the work devolves on the female members of the household. It seems a pity that female workers have gone out of fashion.

Undoubtedly improvements in the process of dairying are necessary, or foreign competition will become a more serious factor than at present. Quite recently foreign dried milk has come into the market, and appears to be a success.

There are no workshops or workplaces registered in this district.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

BERNARD STEDMAN,

M.D. (Lond.),

Medical Officer of Health.

# RICCALL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 1905.

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No. of inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	219
No. of nuisances found	...	...	...	...	...	36
No. of notices served	...	...	...	...	...	14
No. of water notices served...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New sanitary drains laid by private owners	...	...	...	...	...	874 yds.
Old do. relaid do.	...	...	...	...	...	40 „
Water courses cleansed by do.	...	...	...	...	...	654 „
New sewers laid by Sanitary Authority	...	...	...	...	...	55 „
Old sewers relaid by do.	...	...	...	...	...	130 „
Water courses cleansed by do.	...	...	...	...	...	1396 „
New brick wells	...	...	...	...	...	3
New tubes and bored wells	...	...	...	...	...	3
Old wells cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	5
New pumps	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pumps repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
New privies and ashpits built	...	...	...	...	...	7
Old privies and ashpits repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Privies removed from houses	...	...	...	...	...	8
Privies converted into box closets	...	...	...	...	...	10
New urinals to licensed houses and schools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cesspools cleansed by District Council	...	...	...	...	...	241
Cesspools cleansed by private owners	...	...	...	...	...	73
New cesspools built	...	...	...	...	...	12
New gullies	...	...	...	...	...	58
Gullies cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	85
Pigstyes removed from houses	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rooms disinfected after zymotic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	7
Plans for new houses and buildings passed	...	...	...	...	...	10
Inspections of new buildings	...	...	...	...	...	28
No. of slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	7
Inspections of slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	14
Canal boats inspected	...	...	...	...	...	10
Cow-sheds inspected	...	...	...	...	...	48

ALFRED DOUGLAS, Inspector.



TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and previous years. Name of District, RICCALL RURAL.

YEAR.	Popula- tion estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institu- tions in District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institu- tions be- yond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.*					
1895	3126	98	31.3	7	71	47	15.0	..	..	3	50	16.0
1896	3126	90	28.7	12	133	55	17.5	..	..	1	56	17.8
1897	3126	81	26.0	13	160	44	14.0	..	..	1	45	15.0
1898	3184	85	26.6	17	188	62	19.4	..	2	1	61	19.3
1899	3000	87	29.0	10	115	42	14.0	..	..	5	47	15.7
1900	3160	71	22.4	11	155	50	15.8	..	2	4	52	16.4
1901	3100	93	30.0	11	118	50	16.0	..	..	2	52	16.6
1902	3100	77	24.8	11	143	48	15.5	..	..	3	51	16.4
1903	3100	85	27.4	5	59	36	11.6	..	..	1	37	11.9
1904	3100	90	29.0	11	122	45	14.5	..	..	2	47	15.2
Averages for years 1895-1904	3112	86	27.6	11	128	48	15.4	..	..	2	50	16.0
1905	3200	111	34.6	7	63	39	12.2	..	..	1	40	12.5

\* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres )  
(exclusive of area 18,073.  
covered by water) )

Total population at all ages ..... 3100 }  
Number of inhabited houses ..... 734 } At Census of 1901.  
Average number of persons per house .... 4.2 }



TABLE II.

There are no recognised divisions in the Council's area, therefore Table II. is not given.

TABLE III.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING  
THE YEAR 1905.

RICCALL RURAL DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and up- wards
Small-pox .. ..							
Cholera .. ..							
Diphtheria .. ..	5	..	2	3	..	..	..
Membranous Croup							
Erysipelas .. ..	4	..	..	..	..	4	..
Scarlet Fever ..	19	..	5	11	2	1	..
Typhus Fever ..							
Enteric Fever ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Relapsing Fever ..							
Continued Fever ..							
Puerperal Fever ..							
Plague .. ..							
Totals .. ..	29	..	7	14	2	6	..

Isolation Hospital, none.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.

Name of District, RICCALL RURAL.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.
Small-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Whooping-cough .. ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup }	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Croup .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever { Typhus .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic Influenza .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis .. ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Septic Diseases..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary ) Tuberculosis }	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Other Tubercular } Diseases }	2	1	..	1	..	..	..
Cancer, Malignant } Disease }	2	..	..	..	..	2	..
Bronchitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia .. ..	3	..	1	..	..	1	1
Pleurisy .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs }	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism }	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver }	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Venereal Diseases .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth .. ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases and Accidents } of Parturition }	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Heart Diseases.. ..	2	..	..	1	..	1	..
Accidents .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Suicides .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All other causes .. ..	22	2	1	..	..	1	18
All causes .. ..	40	7	2	4	..	7	20

TABLE V.

## RICCALL RURAL DISTRICT.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
<b>All Causes.</b>	Certified ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	7
	Uncertified ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chicken-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Diphtheria: Croup ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
	Diarrhoea, all forms ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Enteritis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	(not Tuberculous) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Congenital Defects ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Injury at Birth ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Want of Breast-milk ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
	Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Syphilis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Rickets ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(not Tuberculous) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Convulsions ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Laryngitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Suffocation, overlaying ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Other Causes ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
				..	..	1	..	1	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	7

Births in the year { Legitimate .. 109.  
 { Illegitimate .. 2.

Population estimated to middle of 1905,  
 3,200

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 36.

